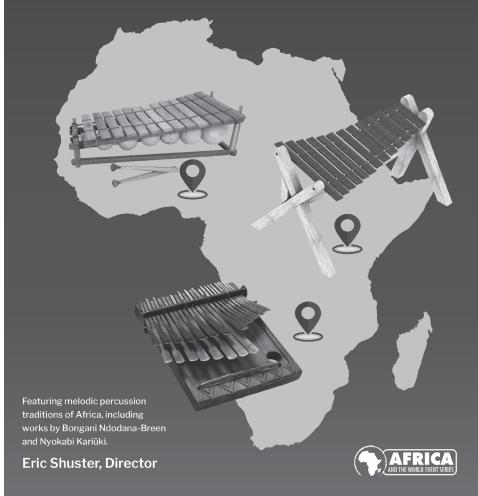
AN EVENING OF PERCUSSION

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE



Thursday, November 17, 2022 Holloway Hall Auditorium 7:30 p.m.



PROGRAM

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A La Nanigo (1967) Mitcheil Peters (1935 - 2017)	
Eric Gehl, conductor	
Imbila (2015)Bongani Ndodana-Breen (b. 1975)	
Lilandra Hayes, narrator	
Chris Lankford, marimba	
Kpanlogo (Dance of the South)conceived by Kakraba Lobi (d. 2007)	
Donnell Robinson, marimba	
Akadinda Trio (1992)Emmanuel Séjourné (b. 1961)	
the season of Big rain (Mbura ya Njahī) (2020)Nyokabi Kariūki (b. 1998)	
Graceful Ghost Rag (1971)William Bolcom (b. 1938) arr. Terry Smith	
Nhemamusasa (trad. Shona)arr. SU Percussion Ensemble	

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

ERIC SHUSTER, DIRECTOR

David Bohenick Camille Jones
Eric Gehl Chris Lankford
Lilandra Hayes Ryan Minton

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In honor of the new Africana Studies Program at Salisbury University, the Salisbury University Percussion Ensemble presents the program "Africa and the World," paying particular homage to the melodic percussion traditions of Africa. These include the East African akadinda and West African gyil (pronounced JEE-lee), ancestors to our modern marimba, as well as the mbira (thumb piano) tradition of the Shona people of Zimbabwe.

Two recent works for concert marimba carry these traditions forward and consider new possibilities in the genre. South African composer Bongani Ndodana-Breen combines traditional and modern approaches to marimba writing for his incidental music in the retelling of *Imbila*, a folktale of the Xhosa (pronounced CO-sa) people and a number of new and experimental techniques are employed on the marimba in Nyokabi Kariūki's "the season of Big rain" (*Mbura ya Njahī*).

Kariūki, a Kenyan composer, multi-instrumentalist and sound artist seeks to create meaningful and challenging art, illuminated by a commitment to the preservation and reflection on African thought, language and stories. The Salisbury University Percussion Ensemble is excited to be commissioning Kariūki for a piece and intend to premiere her new work in spring 2023 for the Salisbury Percussion Festival.

Lastly, the program features two diasporic-influenced selections, the *Afro-Cuban rhythm inspired A La Nañigo* and William Bolcom's classic *Graceful Ghost* from the ragtime revival of the 1970s.

Program notes by Eric Shuster

The Salisbury University Percussion Ensemble, directed by Eric Shuster, presents new, classic and underperformed works for percussion in the spirit of the genre's experimental roots in 1930s and 1940s America. The ensemble, made up of music majors and nonmajors, has a tradition of collaborating with faculty, students and guest artists in the creation of new pieces and has been featured at the Percussive Arts Society MD/DE Day of Percussion. In addition to their semi-annual "Evening of Percussion" programs, the ensemble co-presents an annual Friday Drums concert with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County Percussion Ensemble and appears regularly for New Music Salisbury events. The ensemble was formed in 2012 to celebrate the 100th birthday of avant-garde composer and early percussion innovator John Cage.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Colleen Clark, Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

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Brooke Church, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Shawn Stone, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

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